INFORMATION IS STRENGTH • KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

THE PARTY'S OVER

An Autonomous Anarchist Publication - No. 1 - October, 1990

Anarchic Thugs

A counterpoint to the celebrations was served by some outbreaks of violence by radical bands. In Berlin, about 8,000 radical opponents of unity marched out of Kreuzberg, the heart of western Berlin's celebrated counter-culture, and marched through eastern Berlin under a huge police cordon. They carried posters with slogans like "Germany Shut Up — That's Enough" and "Never Again Germany.".

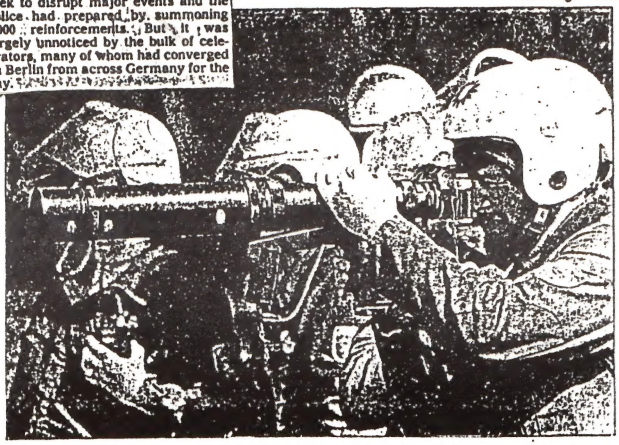
A huge cordon of police accompanied the march, but a cluster of anarchic thugs known as Autonome — the Autonomous — broke out and smashed windows and cars in eastern Berlin's central Alexanderplatz. The police used tear gas, batons and water cannons to curb the breakout, and skirmishes continued into the night. Several score protesters were hustled off by the police.

Minor clashes between radicals and the police were also reported in Dresden, Weimar, Erfurt and Magdeburg, all in eastern Germany, and in Bonn, where the police detained a group of right-wing militants.

The troubles in Berlin were not unexpected, since the Autonome regularly seek to disrupt major events and the police had prepared by summoning 5,000 reinforcements. But it was largely unnoticed by the bulk of celebrators, many of whom had converged on Berlin from across Germany for the day.

20,000 protest united Germany

Anarchist leftists mar unified Germany's coming-out.



GERMAN POLITICAL POLICE SPY ON DEMONSTRATORS

NIE WIEDER DEUTSCHLAND!

MIDNIGHT, October 2. The two Germanys are united. Or rather the DDR is swallowed whole by its Western neighbor. In Berlin nearly a million Germans celebrate the occasion with beer and fireworks. But the event did not pass unprotested. Although the government had forbidden any protests at the Brandenburg Grate - strange, a new era of 'political freedom' is heralded in with a ban on demonstrations - some 5000 autonome/Anarchists took to the streets. Many were illegally searched and detained, and some violence erupted, but the nationalist revelry continued uninterupted a some 12,000 paramilitary police forces kept the Autonome demonstrators "in order". In Gottingen, however, some 1000 Anarchist youths razed that city's financial district amid cries of "Nazis 'Raus!" and "Nie Wieder Deutschland!"

The sudden reunification of the two Germanys must be viewed with contempt. West Germany has long been unrivalled in its exportation of arms. German Multi-Death Corporations have supplied Israel, India, Pakistan, and dear South Afrika with nuclear technology. Libya built a huge chemical munitions plant with German aid. And when the body-bags come pouring home from the Gulf, it'll be clear who sold the poison gas to Iraq which choked to death our American boys (as it did the Kurds a few years back) - the West Germans.

When thing's have calmed down and the parties end and the West Germans begin examining the costs of their anexation, the mood will change. Widespread unemployment will lead to strikes and riot - and economic collapse. German anger will then be vented upon the tens of thousands of Third World immigrants presently living in Germany. As Europe '92, Inc. grows ever closer, the new Germany will undoubtedly tighten its racist immigration policies, making it virtually impossible for "undesirables" to enter the 'Vaterland' European immigration policies for the post-'92 New Europe are outlined in a fascistic document known as the "Schengen Agreement". Under this agreement, an asylum-seeker denied entry into one European country will be automatically be denied entry into any. Thus, the person will be deported to his/her home country to perhaps face torture, rape, or even death. And chances are German firms will be supplying arms to that home country.

In any case, the outlook for the coming years in Germany and in Europe as a whole is bleak. The forces of nationalism and corporate Capitalism must be resisted!

KKKILLER COPS ON THE LOOSE!

Special to The New York Times

LYNWOOD, Calif., Sept. 29 — Last February, William Leonard was stopped by police officers who apparently thought he was armed, was ordered to place his hands behind his head and, as he tried to kneel, was killed by 33 bullets fired into almost every part of his body. His 18-year-old daughter watched.

This account has emerged in a lawsuit against the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the City of Lynwood as one of the most glaring examples of alleged police misconduct.

BY THE WAY, OUR ECONOMY IS DOOMED...

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 — A Congressional review has found that the Government's sale of nearly 100 failing savings institutions in 1988 to private investors will cost taxpayers $71 billion, almost double the amount originally projected by regulators two years ago.

ISN'T DEMOCRACY GREAT!

Part One

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18 — Americans express even greater alienation toward their government and politics today than they did three years ago, and virtually all of the increase has been among people from families earning less than $50,000 a year, a new study of public opinion shows.

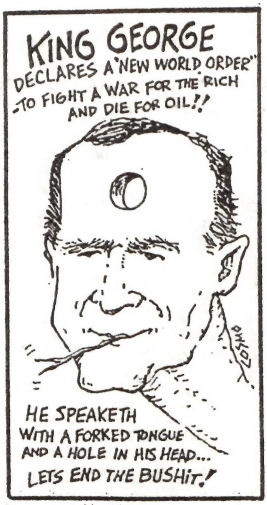
ANC TORTURES 'ANARCHISTS'

SEVEN ELDER members of the African National Congress, refugees in Kenya, have affirmed that they were tortured in 1984 following an abortive rebellion within the ranks of the ANC's military wing 'Umkhontyo we sizwe'. Tied to trees, they were first whipped, then locked in metal containers and exposed to the sun. Some of them were burned with the help of melted plastic.

Over several years sixty activists of the ANC, with the co-operation of its corrupt leaders, have perished under torture. One of those accused admitted, with an air or remorse, that some 'anarchists' accused of 'treason, rebellion and the murder of officers' had been interned in the ANC camps set up in the Frontier States between '84 and '88. To torture seems, with regard to those words, to be justified because the people were said to be 'anarchists.' The GPU did likewise, in the Russian and Spanish revolutions, using identical excuses. The ANC, with its close links with the Stalinist CP of USA, has learned well from its masters.

These revelations must be considered with cases of torture and the detention of oppositionists from their own ranks (two or three hundred at present). It doesn't augur much for the future of the ANC, especially relating to the announcement of murders and torture by Winnie Mandela's 'bodyguard'.

source: le Monde Libertaire


KING GEORGE
DECLARES A 'NEW WORLD ORDER'
-TO FIGHT A WAR FOR THE RICH AND DIE FOR OIL!!
PHOTO
HE SPEAKETH WITH A FORKED TONGUE AND A HOLE IN HIS HEAD...
LETS END THE BUSHit!

WHAT IS ANARCHISM ?

The following was published as a leaflet by the Revolutionary Anarchist Bowling League (RABL) as an introduction to the general ideas of revolutionary anarchism. It was written by the whole collective over a period of 30 hours. The process of drafting a collective document was very important for the development of the group. It has the features generally associated with collective writing. It is offered here as a contribution to the general discussion of revolutionary anarchism.

ANARCHY IS NOT CHAOS. Anarchy is the absence of imposed authority. Anarchy is a society that is built on the principles of respect, cooperation and solidarity. Anarchy is wimmin controlling their own bodies, workers controlling their own workplaces, youth controlling their own education and the celebration of cultural difference.

Anarchy has been struggled for in the past. Anarchists were instrumental in the U.S. May Day general strike in 1886. The strike was to demand a shorter work day and week. In the early part of this century Emma Goldman, a revolutionary anarchist, strongly campaigned for wimmin's reproductive rights and against the oppressive institution of marriage. In 1911, thousands of children from ages 3 on up went on strike against schools all over Great Britain. The strike was completely self-organized. They formed strike committees, picketed and demonstrated, attacked school buildings, and fought battles with strikebreakers and cops.

The anarchist Zapatista liberation army in Mexico fought to free the land of overseers by organising village based groups. They redistributed land and fought a guerrilla war holding back the government troops from 1912 to 1919. In the Spanish Revolution in 1936 an anarchist union of 3 million members was the major force in taking over factories and collectivizing farms. They were ultimately defeated by Franco's Nazi-backed army and betrayed by the Communist Party. In more recent years the squatting movement reacts to the lack of adequate housing. The squatters challenge traditional ways of living, implementing the anarchist principles of cooperative living. In Eastern Europe, anarchists are a major oppositional force involved in radical worker, feminist and ecological movements. In some traditional African and Native American cultures there has been a strong current of anarchistic principles.

What the people in these struggles have in common is that they took power into their own hands. These struggles create an opening and further the possibility of a world without imposed authority.

Revolutionary anarchism acknowledges the necessity of revolution. Power is not going to concede without force. It is dangerous to believe that those who hold power in this society are going to hand it over gracefully without a fight. The ruling classes of this society know what they are doing. Their power comes from the oppression of others.

We support people individually struggling against the lack of choices in their lives. Although an individual fighting back alone has revolutionary value, they will not bring about revolutionary change. Because of the systemic nature of our oppressions, which divide us, we need to be strongly organized to dismantle the highly refined authoritarian power structure. Only the masses, completely involved and in absolute control, can make a real revolution. People know their own pain, and have the ability to identify their own struggles. Therefore, the revolution can not be made on their behalf, organized or directed by a "revolutionary" vanguard.

A vanguard is a revolutionary central committee that believes that they know what is best for the people, and will lead them through the revolutionary process. This is not what anarchism is. Anarchism is about people empowering themselves to take control and to lead their own lives.

Refusing to listen to the voices of authority does not mean that Revolutionary Anarchists advocate chaotic destruction. While we recognize that violence is not random or chaotic, in fact, it is often our well informed response to violent oppression, we must still know how to direct our anger towards revolution.

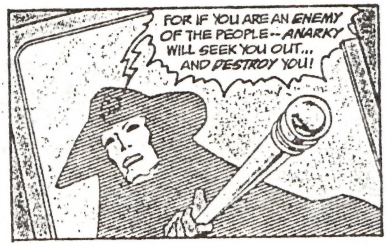
Q & A on Anarchism

Q *What is the class war?*

A The class war is the conflict of interest principally between those who live by their labour and those whose money works for them and gives them an interest in exploitation. It is a caricature of the class war to associate it solely with rioting—though rioting can result from it as sometimes for other reasons too (e g racial); or to say that it is just a clash between rich and poor.

Workers who press their demands with vigour in particular circumstances can in advanced capitalist countries become home and car owners, even have investments, and people from the upper classes, in a hard-headed middle-class society, whose families have never worked or traded, can squander away their assets. Also, the Western myth is that everybody is middle class. This serves to camouflage class struggle but it continues as an economic fact.

People might change classes (by luck, promotion or marriage etc), the way they change nationalities, but the basic economic system does not change nor the struggle which comes out of it. One can take a more or less active part in the actual struggle as individual circumstances might be; but one is still affected by the war, which is still on.



JOKE SPOT

Q - Whats the difference between a dead yuppie and a dead hedgehog, who are both lying in the road?
A - *There's brake marks in front of the hedgehog!*

Q - Why's it better to use yuppies than animals in laboratory experiments?
A - *The lab technicians don't get so attached to them!*

WEAR A MASK!!!

When over a year's worth of grass-roots organizing to stop Margaret "Kill the Poor" Thatcher's Poll-Tax erupted in the Trafalgar Square Riot on April 1 of this year, Anarchists and other pissed off folks from the working class fought back with violence against the police and laid waste to London's financial district.

No doubt shocked at this "disgraceful" display of "unsocial" behavior, Britain's Police State went into high-gear in an all-out attempt to mete out 'justice' to all those involved in the confrontation. After viewing hours of police, media, and illegally confiscated personal video footage, the lackeys of the ruling class soon indicted several individuals on felony charges. One womyn was even turned in by her own mother, after her mother was given a substantial 'reward'! But one of the most disturbing sentences handed out was the following: a man seen on media footage kicking a police car was given a TWO-YEAR jail sentence!

Big Brother is everywhere, friends, so we must be prepared. Most people probably already know this, but demonstrations are carefully watched and photographed by the powers that be. When engaging in militant actions, conceal your identity...WEAR A MASK! If we all do this, then we will have safety in numbers. True, riots are generally spontaneous, so it's hard to always be ready. But the more prepared we are, the harder we can strike!

ISN'T DEMOCRACY GREAT!

Part Two

Low Voter Turnout

By MICHAEL ORESKES
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 — Less than 20 percent of those old enough to vote went to the polls in this year's primary elections, according to a study made public this week by an organization that monitors voter turnout.

The report, by the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate, said turnout actually rose in some places, where voters have vented their anger at candidates perceived as being old-fashioned politicians. But in other places, the number of people going to the polls declined as apathy continued to prevail.

LOVE AND RAGE

Love and Rage: A Revolutionary Anarchist Newsmonthly is a publication which grew out of the Continental Anarchist Unconvention in San Francisco in 1989. After a series of meetings, mini-conferences, arguments, and reconciliations, the project finally got underway in April of this year.

The paper is 'run' by an Editorial Council consisting of men and wimmin from across the continent. The paper itself is produced in New York City. Each month, the paper carries news and reports of Anarchist activity and social struggle from around the globe. The paper has no claims to being THE paper of the Anarchist 'movement', but it is, undoubtedly, a vluable resource, as North American Anarchists often have a hard time keeping their puplishing projects financially stable.

The Autonome Forum will set up a table each month in the mailroom of Baxter Hall on the Williams College Campus to distribute Love and Rage. This month's issue, which should arrive in a few days, features a cover-story on Amerika's lastest imperialist war: the Gulf War. Fighting for monarchy and oil companies!

For more information, write to: Love and Rage, Box 3, Prince Street Station, New York, NY, 10012.

THE PARTY'S OVER is published by the AUTONOME FORUM, PO Box 366, Williamstown, MA, 01267, USA. Comments from Williams College students may be sent to SU boxes 1121 and 1101.